

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

September 29, 2005

Maricopa Association of Governments Office
302 North First Avenue, Suite 200, Saguaro Room
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Maricopa County: Mike Ellegood, Chairperson	Litchfield Park: Mike Cartsonis
ADOT: Bill Hayden for Dan Lance	Mesa: Jim Huling for Jeff Martin
*Avondale: David Fitzhugh	Paradise Valley: Robert M. Cicarelli
Chandler: Patrice Kraus	Peoria: David Moody
*El Mirage: B.J. Cornwall	Phoenix: Tom Callow, Vice Chairperson
*Fountain Hills: Randy Harrel	*Queen Creek: Mark Young
*Gila Bend: Lynn Farmer	RPTA: Bryan Jungwirth
Gilbert: Joe Hughes for Tami Ryall	Scottsdale: Dave Meinhart for Mary O'Connor
Glendale: Terry Johnson	Surprise: Randy Overmyer
Goodyear: Cato Esquivel	Tempe: Carlos De Leon
Guadalupe, Jim Ricker	*Wickenburg: Shane Dille

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ATTENDING

*Regional Bicycle Task Force: Randi Alcott, RPTA	*Pedestrian Working Group: Eric Iwersen, City of Tempe
*Street Committee: Larry Shobe, City of Tempe	*Telecommunications Advisory Group:
*ITS Committee: Alan Sanderson	
* Members neither present nor represented by proxy. + - Attended by Videoconference	

OTHERS PRESENT

Roger Herzog, MAG	Kwi Kang, ADOT
Ken Hall, MAG	Tom Remes, MAG
Eileen O'Connell, MAG	Sarath Joshua, MAG
Paul Ward, MAG	Bob Antila, Valley Metro/RPTA
Steve Tate, MAG	Ali Makarachi, City of Phoenix
Stephanie Wilson, City of Surprise	Jim Creedon, Landry, Creedon & Associates
Ed Stillings, FHWA	Lynn Timmons, City of Phoenix
Jermaine Hannon, FHWA	Peggy Carpenter, City of Scottsdale
Patrick Pittenger, City of Mesa	William Crowley
Bob Hazlett, MAG	

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Mike Ellegood called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

2. Approval of July 28, 2005 Draft Minutes

Addressing the first order of business, Mr. Mike Ellegood asked if there were any changes or amendments to the meeting minutes. He noted that there was a discrepancy on Page Six of the meeting minutes, and stated that the name cited in the paragraph under Item Number 13 needed to be changed from Mr. Ellegood to Mr. Callow. After discussion, Mr. Randy Overmyer moved to approve the July 28, 2005 Draft minutes. Mr. David Moody seconded, and the minutes were subsequently approved by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

3. Call to the Audience

Mr. Ellegood stated that he had not received any request to speak cards from the audience, and moved to the next item on the Agenda.

4. Transportation Director's Report

Mr. Ellegood introduced Mr. Roger Herzog, MAG Senior Project Manager, to provide the Transportation Director's report. Mr. Herzog addressed the Committee, and informed those in attendance that Mr. Anderson was on vacation and not able to be in attendance. Mr. Herzog informed the Committee that ADOT recently held Risk Analysis Process (RAP) meetings, and that they discussed revenues and costs associated with the Regional Freeway Life Cycle Program. He noted that the results of these meetings would be utilized in the development of future revenue forecasts and life-cycle programs. Mr. Herzog indicated that one of the issues discussed was higher oil and construction material costs associated with growing global demand and the recent hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico. He said that rising costs of asphalt, lumber, steel, as well as the lack of rail capacity are all expected to have economic impacts on the MAG Region, and that bids on construction projects are increasing significantly, with ramifications for the implementation of the RTP and TIP.

Mr. Herzog also addressed the latest revenue collection figures. He stated that the August 2005 Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF) collections were up by 8.7 percent over last year, which was approximately 2.4 percent over the original ADOT estimates. Similarly, Regional Area Road Fund collections for July were up 17.9 percent over last year, which was 8.4 percent above ADOT's original estimate. Mr. Herzog said that while revenues are up, costs are also rising, and could pose problems for project funding and development.

Discussion followed concerning increased costs for rubberized asphalt overlays. Mr. Bill Hayden addressed ADOT estimates, and how resurfacing costs for a mile of freeway with rubberized asphalt have increased from approximately \$330,000 to \$750,000 per mile over the last year. Mr. Bill Hayden specifically addressed a 6.5 mile rubberized asphalt project on Loop

202 from Van Buren Street to Alma School Road, and stated that the overall project cost was now \$9.5 million. Mr. Hayden indicated that ADOT will be seeking MAG approval to move forward with this project, so that it can be ready for installation in Spring of 2006.

Mr. Herzog then informed those in attendance that possible agenda items for the MAG Transportation Policy Committee meeting in October would include: the issue of material cost changes for transit; a status report on freeway corridor activities; a briefing on the Annual Report on Proposition 400; and a report on construction cost estimates and trends.

Mr. Herzog then informed the Committee that MAG was in process of trying to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP), concerning a study for the Interstate 10-Hassayampa Valley. As part of this process, staff will be seeking approval for amending the MAG Work Program to cover MAG's share of the study expense. He noted that the study is related to concerns expressed by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) about the number of interchanges, and the increasing amount of commercial traffic along the corridor that travels to and from the metropolitan area. Mr. Herzog then introduced Mr. Bob Hazlett, MAG Senior Engineer, who provided a brief overview of the RFP Process.

Mr. Hazlett informed the Committee that the project is called the *Interstate 10-Hassayampa Valley Roadway Framework Study*. Mr. Hazlett informed the Committee that the overall cost of the study is \$500,000, and that ADOT, MCDOT, and the Town of Buckeye would be contributing funds to pay for the study. Mr. Hazlett stated that the study area would contain the areas between Gila River, located to the south; State Route 74, located to the North; the 459th Avenue alignment, located to the west; and the Loop 303, located to the East. He informed those in attendance that the study is essentially being conducted in an effort to help preserve the I-10 corridor by developing a surface street network for the study area. There were no questions for Mr. Hazlett. Discussion followed, and Mr. Ellegood stressed the importance of the framework study to the communities of the West Valley. There were no further comments or questions, and this concluded Mr. Herzog's report to the Committee.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

Addressing the next order of business, Mr. Ellegood addressed Agenda item #6 (Submittal of Projects for MAG Federal Funding in FY 2011 of the 2007-2011 MAG TIP). Mr. Tom Callow moved to recommend approval of the Consent Agenda. Mr. Randy Overmyer seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved by subsequent voice vote of the Committee.

7. Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2005 Final Year Closeout

Addressing the next order of business, Mr. Ellegood introduced Mr. Paul Ward, MAG Transportation Programming Manager, to provide an update on the FFY 2005 final year closeout. Mr. Ward called the Committee's attention to the handout in Attachment Two of the TRC Agenda packet, which provided an overview of all FFY 2005 MAG Closeout projects. He noted that Attachment Two provided information on projects that were obligated; projects that were

not obligated; and transfer projects, which were left blank and indicated Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) flex projects.

Mr. Ward informed the Committee that originally, there was a total of \$1.5 million in available redistributed obligation authority that was expected to be available. Mr. Ward then called the Committee's attention to a handout that was distributed prior to the meeting, which indicated that the total redistributed obligation authority had increased to about \$3.5 million. Mr. Ward addressed the handout, which was a Memo addressed from Mr. Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, to the MAG Regional Council, which described the MAG closeout process of FY 2005 federal funds. Mr. Ward stated that the closeout process also included a transfer for the repayment of a \$5.1 million ADOT rubberized asphalt paving project to FY 2006.

Mr. Ward noted that, as currently programmed, there would be less than \$160,000 left in MAG closeout funds at the end of the Federal fiscal year. Mr. Ward said that due to the recently enacted federal transportation legislation (SAFETEA-LU), the region would not have final numbers until the funding formulas for Arizona have been finalized by the Federal Highway Administration and that this would occur after the end of the federal fiscal year. Mr. Ward then addressed several questions pertaining to light rail funding for the City of Phoenix. There were no further questions, and this concluded Mr. Ward's presentation to the Committee.

8. Draft of the Arterial Street Life Cycle Program

Addressing the next order of business, Mr. Ellegood introduced Ms. Eileen O'Connell, MAG Transportation Planner, to provide an overview of the Draft Arterial Life Cycle Program (ALCP). Ms. O'Connell stated that it had been three months since the MAG ALCP had been on the agenda before the Committee. She informed the Committee that MAG Staff was working very hard with member agencies to schedule and program the ALCP, and thanked jurisdictions for their ongoing assistance throughout the process.

Ms. O'Connell informed the Committee that since the September 2005 TRC Agenda was mailed to members of the Committee, there have been a total of six project adjustments to the ALCP in a short period of time. Ms. O'Connell said that there was an administrative adjustment to the Mesa Drive project, and that there was also an adjustment on the Jomax Road right of way protection, clarifying the right of way and reimbursement schedule. She also noted that there was an exchange of projects in Gilbert, along with a project deferral at Elliot and Cooper Roads, which was deferred until FY 2008.

Ms. O'Connell informed the Committee that the MAG ALCP was on the Agenda for formal approval. She stated that if the Committee approved this item, that it would allow MAG to make the necessary administrative adjustments to the current MAG TIP; to prepare the data for the new 2007-2011 TIP; and to also update the MAG Regional Transportation Plan. Ms. O'Connell also stated that it would solidify those MAG ALCP projects that are in the process of attempting to initiate a project agreement. She noted that one of the policies of the ALCP specifically stated that a project has to be included within the ALCP and the MAG TIP, prior to completing a project agreement.

Ms. O'Connell answered a number of questions concerning the issue of the ALCP having available cash flow, and questions pertaining to project phasing. Discussion followed concerning the concept of spreading the projects over phases to correlate with the available cash flow. Mr. Jim Huling then addressed the Committee, and congratulated staff for their efforts and the outstanding cooperation and coordination that took place during the ALCP process. Further discussion occurred concerning the time frame for funding sources. Ms. O'Connell expressed her concern over the fact that up to 50 percent of all Phase IV projects were requesting to be advanced, and addressed the issue of available federal funding sources. Discussion followed, and Mr. Terry Johnson moved to recommend approval of the Draft MAG ALCP, with the understanding that in the future, MAG would work closely in coordinating available cash flows with the projects that were scheduled for completion in their appropriate year. Mr. Jim Huling seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved by subsequent voice vote of the Committee. There were no further comments or questions, and this concluded Ms. O'Connell's presentation to the Committee.

At this time, Mr. Ellegood recognized a request by Mr. William Crowley to address the Committee. Mr. Crowley approached the podium, and stated that there was a problem with the way transit facilities were to be located along the arterials. Mr. Crowley stated that his dog recently had emergency surgery, and he had to ride the bus. While riding down Central Avenue on the bus, he contemplated the concept of Phoenix not having bicycle routes along major corridors, and asked the Committee: "What happened to the bike routes?" He told the Committee that they needed to "get on board" with what Maricopa County and the State of Florida consistently does on a regular basis, and incorporate bicycle lanes into the primary transportation corridors. Mr. Crowley stated that the region needed to use paint on the bike lanes for safety purposes, and concluded his statements. Mr. Ellegood thanked Mr. Crowley for his comments.

9. MAG Strategic Transportation Safety Plan

Addressing the next order of business, Mr. Ellegood introduced Mr. Sarath Joshua, ITS & Safety Program Manager, to provide an overview of the MAG Strategic Transportation Safety Plan. Mr. Joshua addressed those in attendance, and stated that the TRC Committee has been somewhat busy over the last several months, and that this was the first opportunity to come before the Committee to brief them on MAG's Safety Planning Program.

Mr. Joshua said that the state of safety in the region is not very good, and said that it was important to develop a plan for improving road safety. He informed the Committee that too many people were getting killed and injured on the region's roadways, and that we have very serious road safety issues in the region. He stressed the fact that the MAG Region can plan for safer roads, just like MAG collectively plans for more road capacity. He informed the Committee that this requires a multi-disciplinary approach to reduce crashes, which is centered upon engineering, enforcement, education and the timely provision of emergency services.

Mr. Joshua then cited a number of road crash statistics from 2003 and 2004. He stated that in 2004, one person died in a road crash every 19 hours; one person was injured in a road crash every 11 minutes; that one pedestrian died every five days; that one pedestrian was injured every

eight hours; and that one bicyclist died every three weeks. He noted that the most recent fatality was a teenager in Mesa. Mr. Joshua told the Committee that this was MAG's opportunity to do something about safety within our region.

Mr. Joshua provided a brief history of transportation safety planning efforts at MAG, that started with the formation of the Safety Stakeholders Group in 2001. The Stakeholder Group developed a Draft Safety Action Plan by March of 2003. The highlighting of safety needs in the region eventually lead to the formation of the Transportation Safety Committee. MAG Regional Council formally approved the formation of the MAG Transportation Safety Committee in January 2004. Mr. Joshua stated that the group currently has 24 members and functions as the nation's "first" transportation safety committee at a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

He stated that the first activity of the new committee was to finalize the Draft Safety Action Plan, the title of which was changed to the MAG Strategic Transportation Safety Plan. He said that the MAG Strategic Transportation Safety Plan, before the committee for action to recommend approval, was developed by the MAG Transportation Safety Committee and the MAG Transportation Safety Stakeholders Group.

Mr. Joshua briefly covered the contents of the MAG Strategic Safety Plan, which included an introduction; a safety overview; a section on potential resource availability (people and money); effective measures to improve safety; a crash and trend analysis; transportation safety elements; and roadway safety goals. Mr. Joshua concluded his presentation and asked whether there were any questions from members of the Committee.

At this time, Mr. Ellegood recognized a request by Mr. William Crowley to address the Committee. Mr. William Crowley approached the podium, and pointed out bicycle crash trends on Page 15 of the MAG Strategic Transportation Safety Plan, and said that this was a very serious concern. He asked the Committee about painted crosswalks, and said that many intersections provide a false sense of security. He noted that he was almost hit by a vehicle on the way to today's meeting, and that in the past, he was actually hit by a car on Central Avenue and McDowell Road in Phoenix. He stressed that the Committee and the region needed to think about providing more effective crosswalks for pedestrian safety. Mr. Ellegood thanked Mr. Crowley for his comments.

Mr. Ellegood then addressed the Committee, and asked members whether they needed more time to review the safety plan, or if they would like to entertain a motion to recommend approval of the plan as submitted. Mr. Jim Huling moved to recommend approval of the MAG Strategic Transportation Safety Plan, as submitted. Mr. Carlos De Leon seconded, and the motion carried by unanimous voice vote of the Committee. This concluded Mr. Joshua's report to the Committee.

10. Next Meeting Date

Mr. Ellegood then asked members in attendance if they had any additional comments that they would like to address. Mr. Ellegood then stated that he had recently requested information on the purpose and character of the MAG Transportation Review Committee, and stated that he felt

that this was a good time to bring the Committee bylaws up to date. After discussion, the Committee agreed that the purpose and mission of the TRC needed to be addressed. Mr. Ellegood said that he would like to work with MAG to update the purpose and mission of the TRC, and that he would like to obtain comments and input from members of the Committee prior to January 1, 2006.

Mr. Ellegood then informed members in attendance that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on October 27, 2005. There being no further business, Mr. Ellegood adjourned the meeting at 10:48 a.m.